

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



AGENDA PAPERS

**Friday 6 October 2023
09:00 - 12:00 CEST**

**Venue – Argus Cultural Centre, Holgersgatan 7B,
Falkenberg, Sweden**

**Hosted by
Falkenbergs kommun**



**Falkenbergs
kommun**

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 7 October 2022 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Agenda

Welcome and introduction

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| 1. Adoption of the agenda | AGM 23/1 |
| 2. Draft minutes of the 32 nd AGM – 7 October 2022 | AGM 23/2 |
| 3. International Activities Report 2022-23 | AGM 23/3 |
| 4. President's Report | Verbal |
| 5. Report from International Board meeting 6 October 2023 | Verbal |
| 6. Action Plan 2023-2024 | AGM 23/4 |
| 7. Finance | |
| • Financial report 2022-23 | AGM 23/5 |
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| 8. Reports from the Networks 2022-23 | AGM 23/7 |

<i>Coffee and PFAS workshop</i>
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| 9. Resolution – Black Carbon | AGM 23/8 |
| 10. Changes to the Presidency Team | AGM 23/9 |
| 11. Election | AGM 23/10 |
| 12. Date/venue for AGM 2024 | Verbal |
| 13. AOB | Verbal |

<i>Concluding remarks – Jerry Ahlström, KIMO President</i>
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KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Minutes of the 32nd Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Tórshavn & Online: 7 October 2022

The list of members and guests registered for the AGM can be found in Annex 1.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted by members.

2. Draft minutes of the 31st AGM on 8 October 2021

The minutes were approved by members.

3. International Activities Report 2021-22

Ms Bentley presented the KIMO International Activities Report and highlighted some of KIMO's successes over the last year. Ms Bentley said that the International Maritime Organisation had recently agreed to make the reporting of shipping containers lost at sea mandatory for all container vessels. Ms Bentley said that OSPAR had recently reported that marine pollution from gas installations in the north east Atlantic has decreased. Ms Bentley shared an update from KIMO Denmark that paraffin stranding incidents on Danish beaches had drastically declined following the change in IMO legislation regarding cargo ship tank washings, which was a change largely attributable to KIMO's lobbying efforts at international level. Mr de Hoop said that the Danish, Dutch and German governments had finally agreed to implement an integrated Vessel Traffic Management system in the Wadden Sea Area, which is something KIMO has lobbied for since 2006.

Ms Bentley updated the meeting about KIMO's work with the Regional Seas Conventions, OSPAR and HELCOM. Ms Bentley noted that in 2021, both Regional Seas Conventions updated their strategies and developed new regional action plans to address marine litter. Ms Bentley said that the actions in each plan have been agreed by contracting parties to the conventions, and will be implemented over the next 10-year period. Ms Bentley explained that KIMO has been at the table during the development of these plans and has had great success in ensuring that many of the issues of concern to KIMO's members are addressed at an international level, including microplastics emissions from artificial turf, plastic pellet loss, pollution from lost containers, sustainability education for fishers, the reduction of pollution from net cuttings waste, banning the mass release of balloons and plastic confetti and the prevention and reduction of riverine litter.

Ms Bentley said that KIMO was in the process of creating a report and communications resources for HELCOM regarding balloon releases and plastic confetti, which would be made widely available for all local and regional governments to use. Ms Bentley said that KIMO is in the process of researching and writing a report on acute plastic pollution in the Nordic countries as commissioned by the Nordic Council and that this would be publicly available in 2023. Ms Bentley also stated that KIMO would continue to fulfil the contract to coordinate the OSPAR Intersessional Correspondence Group on Marine Litter (ICG-ML) in 2023, if asked to by OSPAR. Ms Bentley said that working as a partner in the CleanAtlantic Interreg Project, KIMO will be trialling methods at varying scales to recycle a larger proportion of the end-of-life nets collected in ports.

Mr McCord delivered a short presentation regarding KIMO's social media activity over the last year.

The International Activities report was noted.

4. President's Report

Mr Ahlström updated the meeting about his activities as president over the preceding year. Mr Ahlström said that KIMO has become more widely known over the last year due to the excellent work being done by the Secretariat and the national networks. Mr Ahlström encouraged all members to actively promote KIMO in their municipalities and in other forums so that the organisation's work may become even more public and membership may increase. Mr Ahlström praised the achievements of the Fishing for Litter project and drew attention to the 6,700 tonnes of marine litter that the project had removed from the ocean to date. Mr Ahlström reminded the members of KIMO's work to curb riverine pollution and asked members to raise awareness of the issue in their municipalities. Mr Ahlström asked members to actively consider ways in which KIMO could help to address riverine litter and to share these ideas with the KIMO network.

The President's Report was noted.

5. Report from International Board meeting on 5th October 2022

Ms Bentley presented the report saying that the International Board had agreed to establish a working group for the recruitment of new members. Mr Ahlström said that the networks had agreed to participate in this working group. Ms Bentley said that those taking part in the recruitment working group had identified a need for training in communication strategies and marketing from a professional person in order to improve KIMO's recruitment outcomes. Ms Bentley said that the networks had agreed to ascertain whether such a consultant could be found within their member municipalities.

Ms Bentley said that the International Board had agreed that the case for creating a separate legal entity should be presented to the national networks and that a decision as to whether KIMO International should proceed in the creation of such an entity would be made by each of the national networks before the 31st of December 2022.

Ms Krarup Hansen offered to help with any Fishing for Litter communications and promotional activities should such a need present itself within the coming year. In relation to recruitment activities, Mr Knappe asked whether non-coastal municipalities were able to join KIMO. Mr Ahlström confirmed that any municipality is free to join KIMO and that the organisation has become even more relevant to non-coastal municipalities who have rivers or canals, as KIMO also works to curb riverine pollution.

The report from International Board meeting on 5th October 2022 was noted.

6. Action Plan 2022-2023

Ms Robertson asked whether the funding for progressing work on the Fishing for Litter Hub was dependent on the outcome of the pending decision regarding the establishment of a legal entity. Ms

Bentley said that the services of an intern had already been secured to progress work on the hub and that continuing support and funding of Fishing for Litter remained a top priority for KIMO as the project continues to move from strength to strength.

Mr Kristensen said that Esbjerg Kommune is a part of the Danish North Sea Summit tasked with promoting wind farms and as such the item on the action plan titled “Develop a position statement on offshore wind farms” held particular interest for his municipality. Ms Bentley said that the purpose of a unified KIMO position statement on wind farms was not to advocate for or against wind farms *per se* but rather to develop certain high-level guiding principles to ensure that the construction, maintenance and eventual decommissioning of offshore wind farms take place in a way that does not harm the marine environment. Ms Bentley said that any statement would need to be endorsed by all the members and that no member need be concerned that KIMO would make an official statement on offshore wind farms without their consent.

The International Action Plan 2022-2023 was approved.

7. Reports from the Networks 2021-22

Mr Metcalfe delivered a presentation on the work done by KIMO Denmark. Mr Metcalfe said that membership had grown to 19 municipalities with Gulborgsund being the latest municipality to join. Mr Metcalfe shared an overview of KIMO Denmark’s newly developed ‘Strategy and Action Plan’. Mr Metcalfe said that climate impacts, dredging, ghost nets, eutrophication and chemical pollution are among the chief stressors on Denmark’s marine environment. Mr Metcalfe said that KIMO Denmark has been in dialogue with numerous other organisations to address environmental concerns including the Danish Navy and the Parliament’s Committee for the Environment. Mr Metcalfe said that a joint initiative by Keep Denmark Clean and KIMO Denmark had seen ‘Sea bins’ placed on a number of municipal beaches to good effect. Mr Metcalfe said that KIMO Denmark continued to participate in the Coastal lottery, which has proven to be a simple, yet effective means of improving Denmark’s beaches. Mr Metcalfe said that he continued to conduct beach litter monitoring in Denmark and that this year’s monitoring including an in-depth investigation to ascertain the sources of the marine litter found. Mr Metcalfe said that work with the OSPAR ICG-ML and the Wadden Sea Dialogue Project was also ongoing.

Mr Grüner said that the challenge for the organisation was to ensure that the public and the government were made aware of the problems facing Denmark’s seas and that many coastal areas do not have good environmental status. Mr Grüner said that KIMO Denmark had been working to raise awareness and that, as a result, more opportunities are opening up to find new members on the east coast of Denmark. Mr Grüner said that KIMO’s work needs to be even more visible on social media.

Mr Mannaart delivered a presentation on the work done by KIMO Netherlands and Belgium. Mr Mannaart said that the Fishing for Litter project was currently being restructured in the Netherlands due to the changes brought about by the European Commission’s inclusion of passively fished waste in the revised Port Reception Facilities Directive. Mr Mannaart said that work on the Green Deal ‘Fishing for a Clean Sea’ was ongoing and aimed at reducing pollution from dolly rope, removing passively fished waste and dealing with end-of-life nets in an environmentally responsible manner. Mr Mannaart said that this program was currently being restructured and talks with stakeholders were ongoing. Mr Mannaart said that KIMO Netherlands and Belgium continued to coordinate the Green Deal ‘Clean Beaches’ which is instrumental in gathering stakeholders to facilitate beach cleans and litter prevention activities across the Dutch coast. Mr Mannaart said that KIMO Netherlands and Belgium had received a high level of media attention and coverage due to the record-breaking 756 tonnes of marine litter removed by the Dutch Fishing for Litter project in 2021.

Mr Knape said that KIMO Netherlands and Belgium is dealing with an ever-increasing portfolio of environmental issues but the challenge of communicating this information to the member municipalities remained a challenge.

Ms Hammer delivered a presentation on the work done by KIMO Norway's member municipalities. Ms Hammer said that Farsund kommune conducted its own coastal lottery each year to facilitate the clean-up of local beaches. Ms Hammer said that Lillesand kommune continued to collaborate with the community organisation 'Våre Strender', the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research and the Green Bay Company to improve their local marine environment. Ms Hammer said that Lillesand kommune and Grimstad kommune both provide an annual fund for beach cleaning for which volunteer organisations can apply. Ms Hammer said that Grimstad kommune remove several tonnes of marine litter from harbours each year with the help of a local diving club and are also cleaning several sea trout streams to aid with ecosystem restoration for the species. Ms Hammer said that Arendal kommune's Passion for Ocean Festival which aims to increase ocean literacy and engagement in care for the ocean across all age groups had been a resounding success. Mr Metcalfe asked who was responsible for organising the Passion for Ocean Festival as it would be a very good idea to export to Denmark. Ms Hammer said that it was an international festival and that details of the organisers can be found online.

Ms Hammer said that the association of Norwegian fishermen had contacted KIMO Norway to enquire about KIMO's 'net cuttings' guidelines and expressed an interest in adopting the recommended best practices. Ms Hammers said that the guidelines had subsequently been translated into Norwegian so that they can be used by Norwegian fishers. Ms Hammer said that information about KIMO had been shared with other municipalities participating in a network facilitated by the WWF to curb plastic pollution. Ms Hammer said that expanding membership remained a priority and a challenge.

Ms Meyer delivered a presentation on the work done by KIMO Sweden. Ms Meyer said that KIMO Sweden currently has 12 members. Ms Meyer said that KIMO Sweden has awarded a scholarship to Emma Broden to write a report on the environmental harm caused by microplastics from artificial turf sports pitches. Ms Meyer said that KIMO Sweden is actively involved in preparing program content for the Sustainability Festival in Västra Götaland. Ms Meyer said that KIMO Sweden has campaigned for many years against microplastic pollution from confetti and was therefore pleased to see that when the EU's Single Use Plastics Directive was transcribed into Swedish national law, the new laws included a ban on the outdoor use of confetti in Sweden.

Ms Meyer said that information about the outdoor confetti ban was shared with high schools to ensure that they are aware of the new law. Ms Meyer said that, following on from KIMO Sweden's report on ghost gear in 2021, KIMO Sweden had drawn up concise information on preventing lobster pots from becoming ghost gear and that this information had been sent out by KIMO Sweden members to harbours and to fishers as well as being made publicly available on the web.

Ms Meyer said that the upcoming elections in Sweden would mean a new board for KIMO Sweden in the coming year, which always poses its own challenges. Ms Meyer said that replacing the granulate in artificial turf remained a contentious issue in Sweden but that microplastic granulate might soon be banned at EU level which would clarify the conversation around alternatives.

Ms Bentley delivered a presentation on the work done by KIMO UK. Ms Bentley said that KIMO UK currently has 8 members and that a new chair and vice-chair had been elected. Ms Bentley said that the new chair had written to all Scottish municipalities to invite them to join KIMO and that two municipalities had requested additional information. Ms Bentley said that KIMO UK had contributed to the Scottish Government's new Marine Strategy, which had been published in 2022. Ms Bentley said that KIMO UK had been allocated some actions in the new strategy principally concerning Fishing for Litter. Ms Bentley said that the Fishing for Litter project has grown over the last year from 32 to 46 participating ports and that the Danish energy company, Ørsted, had contributed funds to aid the project's expansion. Ms Bentley said that

the Fishing for Litter project is currently exploring ways to increase recycling rates for passively fished waste.

Ms Robertson said that increasing awareness about KIMO's work, raising awareness about microplastic pollution from artificial turf and dealing with marine litter from Ministry of Defence activities were all continuing challenges for KIMO UK. Ms Robertson said that the organisation hoped to expand membership beyond Scotland. Ms Robertson said that there seemed to be a downward trend in passively fished waste landed at Fishing for Litter harbours, which could be an indicator that marine litter is decreasing.

The reports from the national networks were noted.

8. Resolution – Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

Mr Metcalfe delivered a presentation about KIMO Denmark's proposed Resolution regarding Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Mr Metcalfe said that KIMO Denmark had been working on this issue for some time now as it had risen up the agenda in Denmark due to a number of incidents where PFAS pollution had been found to have adversely affected a local environment, livestock and human health. Mr Metcalfe outlined the problems posed by PFAS and the actions that national governments and the EU should be taking in order to address the problem. Mr Knappe asked whether there was more information available about the human health impacts. Mr Metcalfe replied that the studies on human health impacts were referenced in the Resolution itself. Mr Grüner said that in areas where PFAS contamination is present, particularly high concentrations can be found in sea foam, which is a public health risk especially for children. Mr Metcalfe asked the assembly of delegates to approve the resolution.

The resolution was approved.

9. Financial reports

Mr Ahlström presented the financial accounts for 2021-22 and asked whether there were any questions regarding the financial report. No questions were forthcoming. Ms Bentley presented the proposed budget for 2023/24 and pointed out that the proposed budget was a deficit budget and that the assembled delegates are asked to decide whether to approve the International Board's recommendation that the shortfall be drawn from reserves. Mr Ahlström said that the organisation had two options in order to produce a balanced budget in future years. Mr Ahlström said that the organisation had to either find at least 10 new members or pursue the creation of a legal entity, which could be used to bring in extra financial and staffing resources. Mr Ahlström said that the decision on whether to pursue the creation of a legal entity would not be made in the current meeting but would be discussed by each network in their next network meeting and that the outcomes of those discussions would be relayed to the International Secretariat by the end of 2022.

The AGM approved the financial accounts for 2021-22.

The budget for 2023-2024 was approved.

10. Extension of the Presidency Term

Ms Bentley said that KIMO's current president, Mr Ahlström, has not had many opportunities to represent KIMO or to promote the organisation at international events due to the disruptions caused by the Covid pandemic. Ms Bentley said that the proposal to extend the president's current term had been discussed with and approved by the junior and senior vice presidents and that should the AGM agree to the proposal, there was no constitutional impediment to extending Mr Ahlström's term by an additional year.

The meeting agreed to extend Mr Ahlström's term as president by one year.

11. International Board elections

Mr Ahlström asked the meeting to approve the election of the five nominated Directors to the International Board as follows:

KIMO Denmark – Preben Friis-Hauge

KIMO Netherlands and Belgium – Sebastian Dinjens

KIMO Norway – Einar Holmer-Hoven

KIMO Sweden – Emmyly Bonfors

KIMO UK – Trish Robertson

The AGM approved the election of the five nominated Directors to the International Board.

12. Date/venue for AGM 2023

Ms Danielsson delivered a presentation about Falkenberg municipality, which will play host to KIMO AGM 2023.

The next KIMO AGM will take place in Falkenberg, Sweden on 6 October 2023.

13. AOB

Mr Ahlström notified the meeting that Mr te Beest, after years of dedicated service to KIMO, would step down from his role as senior vice president following the 2022 AGM. Mr Ahlström thanked Mr te Beest for his contribution to the organisation. Mr Metcalfe also thanked Mr te Beest for his role in helping the organisation through a difficult period and for his years of service to the common cause.

Mr te Beest thanked KIMO for the opportunity and gave special acknowledgement to KIMO colleagues who had helped make the organisation a success.

Mr Ahlström said that after discussions with the presidency team, a proposal had been made that the role of senior vice president be eliminated such that the presidency team would in future consist only of the president and junior vice president. Mr Ahlström said that, apart from offering advice, the senior vice president has no clearly defined role in the organisation and that asking someone to commit to an official KIMO role for 6 years when considering nomination for the presidency, is a big ask. Mr Ahlström said that no decision was to be made yet and that a formal decision on the change to the structure of the presidency team would be deferred to the 2023 AGM.

President's concluding remarks

Thanks were given to the KIMO International team for organising the event and thanks given to all in attendance.

The meeting was closed.

Annex 1 - Registrants

First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organisation
Jerry	Ahlstrom	KIMO international
Chris	Ballance	Highland Council
Arabelle	Bentley	KIMO International
Pia	Bergenholtz	Sotenäs municipality
Helena	Björn	Lomma kommun
Daniel	Borup	City of Aalborg
Ingela	Danielsson	Falkenberg municipality
Albert	De Hoop	Honorary Member
Anders	Debel	Holstebro Kommune
Sarah	Dickinson	Aberdeenshire Council
Mark	Findlater	Aberdeenshire Council
Søren	Frederiksen	Ringkøbing-Skjern Kommune
Ken	Gowans	Highland Council
Jørgen	Grüner	Slagelse
Lilja	Gunnarsson	Tanums kommun
Bengt	Hackberg	Falkenbergs kommun
Ragnhild	Hammer	Arendal kommune
Peter	Henderson	South Ayrshire Council
Daniel	Irvold	Municipality of Vordingborg
Julia	Johansson	Lomma municipality
Jenni	Kakkonen	Orkney Islands Council
Jacco	Knape	Gemeente Katwijk
Barbara	Krarup Hansen	Tønder Kommune
Søren Hjortsø	Kristensen	Esbjerg Kommune
Thomas	Lomholt	Hjørring Kommune
Moraig	Lyall	Shetland Islands Council
Jakob	Lysholdt	Guldborgsund Kommune
Michael	Mannaart	KIMO Netherlands/Belgium
Andrea	Manson	Shetland Islands Council
Grioghair	McCord	Independent Consultant
Iain	McDiarmid	Shetland Islands council
Ryan	Metcalfe	KIMO Denmark
Karin	Meyer	Göteborgs stad
Aleksander	Myrhøj	Norrdjurs Kommune
Lars	Nørgaard Bach	Aalborg Kommune
Göran	Ohlsson	Öckerö, Sweden
Samuel	Payne	Aberdeenshire Council
Trish	Robertson	Highland Council
Claus	Rom	Jammerbugt Kommune
Linnea	Rösiö	Öckerö kommun, Sweden
Hans	Schub	KIMO Sweden/Tanum

Egil	Sørensen Haurum	Thisted Kommune
Finn	Thøgersen	Holstebro Kommune
Kristian	Tilsted	Thisted Kommune
Cllr Heather	Woodbridge	Orkney Islands Council

Apologies

Emmyly Bönfors

Einar Holmer-Hoven

Sebastian Dinjens

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

International Activities 2022-23

Recommendation:

To note the International Activities report.

Background

The purpose of the KIMO International Annual Activities Report is to inform about activities since the last Annual General Meeting. In this report you will find:

1. Introduction
2. Report on the KIMO Action Plan 2022-2023 key action areas:
 - a. Increase the influence of the organisation nationally and internationally
 - b. Ensure members' voices are heard on issues affecting the marine environment
 - c. Lead by example in improving the marine environment
 - d. Provide members with a viable, supported and fully sustainable organisation
3. External projects and income

1. Introduction

The total number of individual KIMO member municipalities at the end of August 2023 was 79, plus 3 group members – Kommunufelagið (Association of Faroese Municipalities), Insel- und Halligkonferenz (Association of municipalities working together in the Frisian Islands, Halligen and Helgoland), and Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste (Association for the Protection of the German North Sea Coast).

The 2022 AGM was held in Tórshavn (Faroe Islands) and online on 7th October and was attended by 45 delegates from 27 member municipalities. Riverine litter was identified as a new focus for KIMO. A resolution was adopted on PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).

The International Board meeting took place on 25th May 2023 in the town of Stege, Denmark, at the kind invitation of the municipality of Vordingborg. The meeting focussed on KIMO's work to mitigate riverine litter in municipalities, including the EU Interreg project, TREASURE, which aims to reduce the flow of plastics into the North Sea. Also agreed was to proceed with the creation of a separate financial entity to manage KIMO's external work and income.

Members of the International Board in 2022-23 – in addition to the President and Vice Presidents – were Councillors **Andrea Manson** (Shetland Islands Council, UK), **Emmyly Bönfors [succeeded by] Karen Pleijel** (KIMO Sweden), **Sebastian Dinjens** (KIMO Netherlands and Belgium), **Preben Friis-Hauge** (KIMO Denmark), **Trish Robertson** (KIMO UK) and **Einar Holmer-Hoven** (KIMO Norway). The National Coordinators attend as Observers and the International Secretariat facilitates the meetings.

The Secretariat and National Coordinators hold monthly meetings online to exchange information and progress the work of KIMO.

2. Report on the KIMO Action Plan 2022-2023 key action areas

KIMO strategy is implemented through the Action Plan that is revised each year and approved by delegates at the AGM. The following report contains some of the activities and successes of 2022-23.

a. Increase the influence of the organisation both nationally and internationally

The Secretariat has continued to work to increase KIMO's visibility and influence. We have a robust social media presence and use social media daily to promote KIMO regionally and globally, cascading information regularly to a large number of contacts and stakeholders. The number of visitors to the website and to our LinkedIn page continues to increase. We are positive that KIMO's website and social media communications will encourage more new members to join, and will make clear to the media and others that KIMO is the 'go to' organisation for comments and expert opinion on marine environmental matters.

This year the Secretariat has continued to work closely with the OSPAR Regional Seas Convention, making use of KIMO's Observer status to contribute and influence marine policy of the 15 European countries and the EU that are contracting parties to the OSPAR Convention. During 2022-23 KIMO has participated in the OSPAR group that works on issues around offshore renewable energy. KIMO has been accepted as Observer to the Bonn Agreement (the mechanism by which ten governments and the EU cooperate in dealing with pollution of the North Sea by oil and harmful substances), although we have not yet been able to participate in any meetings due to calendar conflicts. We have also been very successful in influencing the content of the new Regional Action Plans for both OSPAR and HELCOM – most notably, on pollution from microplastics in artificial grass, mass releases of balloons and confetti, and fisheries waste.

In addition to our important work with the Regional Seas Conventions, the Secretariat has also been working to raise KIMO's profile in other ways. KIMO International President Jerry Ahlström attended the European Maritime Day 2023 and the CPMR North Sea Commission meetings, which were held back to back in Brest (France) in May 2023. We have participated in several EU events in Brussels, including working with Surfrider EU to develop a position on lost shipping containers and pellet spills in response to the revision of the EU Ship Source Pollution Directive. KIMO has been invited to participate, speak and moderate sessions at numerous events, although we have the resources to join only those that are the most directly relevant to KIMO's work.

From November 2021 to September 2023, KIMO has been participating as a full partner in the CleanAtlantic project. The project is funded by the EU Interreg Atlantic Regional Development Fund and is closely linked to the work of OSPAR's Regional Action Plan on marine litter, contributing to a number of the international actions. KIMO's contribution to the CleanAtlantic project focuses on finding solutions to sustainable management of passively fished waste, by increasing the amount of this waste that is recycled or reused. In addition to the high-level exposure KIMO enjoys from being associated with this work, KIMO can work to ensure that, with regard to marine litter, the project outcomes are aligned with KIMO priorities.

b. Ensure members' voices are heard on issues affecting the marine environment

The Secretariat has participated in a number of international stakeholder meetings dealing with issues of concern to the organisation. The Secretariat and other KIMO representatives have been actively engaged in promoting these issues and establishing valuable connections with Government delegations, Contracting Parties and NGOs.

The Secretariat has responded on behalf of the organisation to a number of EU consultations, including on the Environmental Liability Directive and the Polluter Pays Principle fitness check. KIMO International has raised awareness of many of its key concerns via social media channels and in person, for example meeting

with regional politicians at the North Sea Commission marine Resources Group meeting in March, where we agreed a joint statement on PFAS.

The Secretariat has continued to participate in international forums, including those of the Regional Seas Conventions, OSPAR and HELCOM. The Secretariat has participated in relevant meetings and input into the revisions to HELCOM's Baltic Sea Action Plan and to OSPAR's North East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2020-2030 to ensure that KIMO's voice is heard in those forums, and continues to lobby for mandatory action on several key issues in the revised OSPAR and HELCOM Regional Action Plans on Marine Litter, including bans on mass balloon releases, the development of guidelines on artificial sports turf and the development of sustainability education for fishers.

c. Lead by example in improving the marine environment

Participation in projects remains a key part of KIMO's commitment to improving our coastal and marine environments. Fishing for Litter continues to be one of KIMO's most successful projects. It has been incorporated into OSPAR policy and has generated a great deal of interest at EU level with its inclusion in revised Port Reception Facilities Directive. We are also happy to report the continuing success of our International Fishing for Litter Coordinator group which, driven by KIMO, comprises Fishing for Litter Coordinators from ten countries that come together to discuss common issues and to share best practices and advice about the scheme. By means of a dedicated website (the Fishing for Litter Hub) KIMO also collects data from this group on how much marine litter their projects have landed (www.fishingforlitter.org).

KIMO is also exploring possibilities for collaboration with new partners. Under the CleanAtlantic project, we have been working with local organisations and SMEs to set up a series of pilot projects in the UK that focus on collection, recycling and upcycling of end of life fishing gear and ghost gear, to establish best practices and report on barriers and challenges to sustainable, targeted collection of fisheries waste. By collaborating with other stakeholders under this initiative, KIMO can play a key role in expanding passive waste collection and ensuring the waste is managed in a way that contributes towards a more circular economy.

d. Provide members with a viable, supported, sustainable organisation

This year the Secretariat has organised and attended two meetings of the OSPAR Intersessional Group on Marine Litter (ICGML). KIMO has a contract to facilitate these meetings and is responsible for organisation, task management and production of the summary record. The contract benefits KIMO both by providing an income and by keeping its profile raised amongst the 15 Contracting Parties and the EU that cooperate through OSPAR. Resource pressures on some Contracting Parties suggest that this work may eventually be taken in house by OSPAR but the Secretariat has successfully negotiated that KIMO retains it until at least the end of 2023.

Due to an exceptionally busy year there has been limited progress made on the proposal for the establishment of an additional financial arm to KIMO as a means to attract funding from diverse sources into the KIMO organisation. However, it should be recognised by members that a solutions to increase organisational income must be found swiftly if we are to maintain a safe amount of reserve. This issue will be discussed by the International Board at its meeting on 4th October and the AGM informed of any progress.

The Secretariat works together with the Presidency Team to implement KIMO policy and to promote KIMO's work to a wide and diverse audience. The Presidency Team continues to meet regularly with the Secretariat on issues of KIMO policy and organisation.

Under the terms of the contract between KIMO International and Shetland Islands Council for provision of Secretariat services, the Secretariat has continued to address the contractual obligations. It works to meet

the administrative and strategic needs of the organisation and to further improve and enhance the service provided, based on feedback from network colleagues and members.

The Secretariat has continued to facilitate the work of the organisation through preparation for the Annual General Meeting 2023, two International Board meetings and several National Coordinator meetings. The Secretariat has continued to carry out the activities agreed at these meetings and has continued to develop and implement initiatives to facilitate the organisation's work.

The Secretariat is hosted by Shetland Islands Council (UK) and is located in the Shetland Islands. The Secretariat consists of Executive Secretary **Arabelle Bentley** and Business Support Officer **Innis Johnston** with support from the Executive Manager of Planning **Iain McDiarmid**. The Secretariat has been further supported since April 2021 by part-time communications officer, **Grioghair McCord**, who is subcontracted by KIMO International. The Secretariat facilitates the AGM, International Board, National Coordinator and Presidency Team meetings. It coordinates joint working across the networks and leads on KIMO's social media strategy. It represents KIMO at various high-level meetings and technical forums, conferences and workshops, including the European Commission, European Parliamentary Intergroup and Regional Seas Conventions.

The Secretariat would like to acknowledge the assistance, support and cooperation it has received from KIMO members, especially from the Presidency Team, International Board and National Coordinators.

3. External projects and income

KIMO International has worked hard over the past 4 years to attract opportunities to win contracts for external projects, in order to boost income and to make the organization more financially resilient. This strategy has been successful - we have implemented sustained high-level promotion of our organization that has led to successful outcomes in terms of projects won. This success was greatly enhanced by the secondment from KIMO Netherlands and Belgium of Mike Mannaart to KIMO International in 2021-23, and we believe it will be necessary to continue this arrangement if we are to continue to seek external projects and income.

Two of the high-profile projects we have worked on in 2022-23 are summarized below. The goals that each will achieve are given, and it is clear to see that these are closely aligned with many of KIMO's own goals.

Projects

Nordic Report on Acute Plastic Pollution

An assessment report on acute plastic pollution focusing on relevant situations affecting the Nordic Countries. The focus is on preventive measures, emergency responses, experience from clean-up operations, relevant regulation, and other legal aspects. The roles of authorities and other actors, organisation at national/regional level, and cooperation between countries will be described. The findings will be presented in a report and at a dedicated launching event. The report will be part of a Nordic project on acute plastic pollution. Acute plastic pollution is one of the priorities areas under the cooperation between the Nordic Ministers of Climate and Environment. The project will contribute to sharing of experience and information between the Nordic countries and to identify and follow up on possible areas for further cooperation and collaboration between the Nordic countries, and will raise KIMO's profile in the Nordic countries, giving us a springboard to increase our membership there.

The project will contribute to the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) resolution 3/7, which stresses the long-term ambition of eliminating discharge of plastic litter and microplastics into the oceans as well as UN Sustainable Development Goals 12 and 14.

Income - £36,924; Expenditure £15,239; Retained - £21,684

Phasing out the intentional releases of inflated balloons and of confetti outdoors

Investigate, estimate and describe the situation in the HELCOM countries regarding intentional releases of balloons as well as releases of confetti outdoors and their impacts on the environment including the marine environment and develop recommendations/guidance on possible ways of phasing out intentional releases of balloons as well as measures relevant for confetti, in support of all Contracting Parties to the Helsinki Convention (Denmark, Estonia, EU, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Sweden) to work strategically on the issue. The results and recommendations will be presented in a report. The results should also be presented as a video that could be used for communication purposes.

Environmental objectives include:

- Reduced Climate Impact
- Flourishing Lakes and Streams
- A Balanced Marine Environment, Flourishing Coastal Areas and Archipelagos
- Agenda 2030, SDG 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- Agenda 2030, SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- SDG 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Income - £24,347; Expenditure - £20,163; Retained £4,184

CleanAtlantic Project – EU Interreg Atlantic Area

CleanAtlantic aims to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Atlantic area by improving capabilities to monitor, prevent and remove marine litter. KIMO is a partner in the Interreg Atlantic Area CleanAtlantic project, working on solutions to land-based management of marine waste. As part of the project work, we sponsored a small community-led company in Scotland to carry out a pilot project to collect ropes and other specific types of fishing gear and turn it into a reusable (commercial) product. We are also in discussions with an initiative on the island of Skye that is looking to find solutions to recycle the waste from the new FfL schemes that are shortly to begin at 6 harbours, and also the waste that washes up on the beaches and shorelines.

We also undertook a wider study on waste management practices in UK ports and harbours, and are currently completing our final report, which will be published during October 2023.

Objectives include:

- Contributing to the reduction of the presence of marine litter in the Atlantic Area in collaboration with marine stakeholders.
- Raising awareness on a number of local and regional stakeholders about the sources, impacts and solutions for marine litter and on how they can actively contribute to prevent, monitor and reduce it.
- Gathering and assessing data, knowledge and gaps regarding marine litter in the Atlantic Area. Identification and mapping of key stakeholders, relevant initiatives, and good practices.

- Reinforcement and support of harmonized monitoring of marine litter in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).
- Development of sub regional or regional maps of hotspots of floating litter based on the circulation of floating masses of marine litter.

Income - £34,748; Expenditure - £46,331; Retained -£11,583

(Project funding 75%; match funding 25%)

Income

In 2022-23, the Secretariat brought in £110,850 in project income into KIMO International, retaining (after costs) a surplus of £17,547.

The potential for KIMO to earn extra income is substantial, but the pressures on staffing makes it necessary to bring in expensive consultants to action the work, hence the relatively small profit. Given the magnitude of the administrative burden of managing these external projects, it will not be feasible to take on external work until the need for extra staffing resource across the organisation is addressed.

Arabelle Bentley

KIMO International Secretariat

September 2023

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

International Action Plan 2023-24

Recommendation:

The AGM is asked to approve the International Action Plan 2023-24.

This action plan is based on the priorities identified by KIMO members and sets out the new and ongoing work for the year ahead.

Where relevant, KIMO priority work is mapped to high-level policy and legislation, in particular those of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, G7 marine litter action plan, EU legislation (including MSFD) and the work areas of the Regional Seas Conventions, OSPAR and HELCOM. The purpose of this is to demonstrate how KIMO's work impacts on the mandatory legislation that binds our member countries.

KIMO International Action Plan 2023-2024				
Action area	Objectives	Key activities	Timeline	Legislation/Policy
Increase the influence of the organisation both nationally and internationally	Ensure promotion of KIMO's priorities to relevant EU institutions, organisations and members states	Maintain and build new contacts with officers at DGs, Committee of the Regions, national offices, other organisations	Continuous – regular contact with relevant officials and stakeholders to keep them informed of KIMO activities – 2-3 times per year	
		Establish partnerships and identify areas for cooperation with other international organisations	Continuous – includes North Sea Commission (& Marine Resources Group), FIDRA, Seas-at-Risk, Surfrider EU, Odyssey Innovation, Coalition Clean Baltic, Ørsted/other offshore energy businesses	
	Influence strategy and policy of EU, OSPAR, HELCOM, making clear we represent local authorities & communities	Ensure decision makers are informed about KIMO's position	Continuous – lobbying, resolutions, campaigns, consultations	
	Raise KIMO's profile with stakeholders	Participate in international and national conferences and stakeholder events	Continuous	
	Influence IMO strategy	Follow marine litter developments at MEPC	Follow developments on lost containers and marine litter action plan	
	Ensure visible support to other stakeholders and campaigns	Promote campaigns that prevent/reduce marine pollution	Continuous	SDG 14.1
	Increase membership in KIMO countries	Establish new contacts, participate in events	Continuous – consider promotional events in Norway and Ireland (possibly also Finland, Lithuania)	

Action area	Objectives	Key activities	Timeline	Legislation/Policy
Ensure members' voices are heard on issues affecting the marine environment	Lobby UN, EU, RSCs, IMO, other organisations to take effective action on marine pollution and maritime safety issues	Attend relevant meetings; submit papers & resolutions, participate in consultation and technical groups; campaign & raise issues on KIMO resolutions	Continuous – EU, UN, OSPAR, HELCOM, IMO, SEARICA, GGGI, NFLA, NSC	
		Lobby for a ban on discharge of paraffin from ships tankers and pipes	Ongoing – 2023 prepare resources for (possible) online campaign	SDG 14.1 EU PRF Directive IMO MARPOL
		Monitoring of 'no fee' for delivery of passively-fished waste in EU ports	Ongoing – work with FfL international coordinators on effects to FfL of the PRF Directive implementation act	SDG 14.1, 14.2 OSPAR + HELCOM RAP ML 30, 31, RS3, RS4 EU PRF & SUP Directives
		Promote net cuttings report/ best practice guide	Presentation at Arctic Plastics Symposium, November 2023, promotion nationally to Danish ministry	OSPAR RAP ML 36, G7
		Promote balloons/confetti report	Request from Sweden for report to be distributed to OSPAR CPs	SDG 14.1 OSPAR & HELCOM RAP ML 48
		Promote acute plastic pollution report	Through Nordic Council and KIMO channels	SDG 14.1 OSPAR & HELCOM RAP ML
		Monitor/lobby on Extended Producer Responsibility	Ongoing	EU SUP Directive, G7 RAP ML
		Develop political resolutions on relevant subjects	At least one per year – 1 in 2023-24	

Action area	Objectives	Key activities	Timeline	Legislation/Policy
Promote a cross-border coordinated approach to the protection of coastal and maritime areas	Develop best practice on marine pollution issues, exchange and disseminate information on effective pollution prevention, clean-up operations and on sustainable development	Develop resource on limiting microplastics emissions	Re-evaluate in light of impact of REACH decision	SDG 11.6, 14.1 RAP ML 46, 55 G7, EU
		Campaign/lobby on pollution by lost containers from shipping	September 2023 – Joint lobby/position paper (Surfrider, IFAW) sent to EU on amendments to revised ship source directive 2005/35/EC	SDG 11.6, 14.1 HELCOM RAP ML EU
		Develop best practice guidelines for using artificial turf (collaboration with FIDRA)	2024 - KIMO guidelines expected to be adopted by OSPAR as to address relevant action in RAP ML Await impacts of EU ECHA legislation on intentionally added microplastics	SDG 11.6, 12.4, 12.5, 14.1 G7, EU OSPAR RAP ML
		Review of issues – offshore wind farms	On hold – International Board decision not to progress - May 2022	SDG 14.2 EU, OSPAR, HELCOM Bonn Agreement
	Make joint representations against threatening proposals	Campaign and raise issues on existing resolutions; react and respond to situations as they arise	Ongoing	SDG 11.6, 14.3 EU, IMO, OSPAR HELCOM

Action area	Objectives	Key activities	Timeline	Legislation/Policy
Lead by example in improving the marine environment of the NE Atlantic and Baltic Sea regions	Undertake demonstrative projects	Increase participation in Fishing for Litter	Ongoing – OSPAR target, KIMO FfL Hub, Intl FfL Coordinators, promotion of KIMO deliverables - EU CleanAtlantic project	SDG 11.6, 14.1 G7, EU RAP ML 53, RS12
		Work towards a ban of mass balloon releases in municipalities	2023 – KIMO report for HELCOM - impacts of Balloon releases, used to address RAP ML actions	SDG 14.1 OSPAR & HELCOM RAP ML 48
		Promote river cleaning projects	Continuous	SDG 11.6, 14.1, RAP ML RL15

Action area	Objectives	Key activities	Timeline	Legislation/Policy
Provide members with a viable, supported and financially sustainable organisation	Provide to members a controlled and balanced budget	Produce financial reports, outline financial economies and priorities	AGM 2023, 2024 International Board 2023, 2024	
	Increase income	Increase members in KIMO countries	Ongoing	
		Develop consultancy tender for HELCOM – outputs to address fisheries litter	October 2023, for project completion December 2024	
		Develop consultancy tender for OSPAR ICGML contract	Completed for 2023, tender for 2024	
		Seek funding to develop net cuttings campaign materials	2023 No progress	
		Seek funding for staffing/progress of Fishing for Litter Hub	Funding for development from EU Interreg CleanAtlantic, no further action planned in 2024	
	Communicate developments, progress, achievements, participation in projects	Keep members & stakeholders informed of KIMO activities, events, consultations and projects	Continuous – website, social media, reports, guidance docs, newsletter	
		Inform decision makers at all levels about KIMO strategy & policy positions	Attend events and workshops; inform MEPs and CoR, relevant DGs and officials in EC, RSCs, UN	

NOTES

1. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are universally recognised and addressed in strategies at all levels, from local to global. The goals and sub-goals of particular relevance to KIMOs work are given here and cross-referenced in the Action Plan:

SDG 11.6

By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

SDG 12.4

By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

SDG 12.5

By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

SDG 12.7

Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities

SDG 14.1

By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

SDG 14.2

By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans

SDG 14.3

Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels

2. EU priorities/legislation

- Water protection and management - Marine Strategy Framework Directive, marine pollution, Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, storm water
- Circular economy
- Waste management – Single Use Plastics Directive, Port Reception Facilities Directive, packaging waste, sewage sludge, port reception facilities, radioactive waste and substances, industrial emissions, ship source pollution
- Blue Growth
- Maritime Spatial Planning
- Reduction of CO₂ and other emissions
- Maritime safety
- Climate change mitigation

3. Organisations working at sea basin regional level

North Sea region:

OSPAR - Oslo Paris Convention for the marine environment of the North-east Atlantic

- Biological diversity & Ecosystems (Species & Habitats, Marine Protected Areas, Biodiversity monitoring & Assessment)
- Hazardous substances & Eutrophication
- Human Activities (Offshore renewables, Marine litter, Underwater noise, Fisheries and Mariculture, Shipping and ballast water, Dredging and dumping, Dumped Chemical & Conventional munitions)
- Offshore industry (Offshore installations, Discharges, Carbon Capture and Storage, Offshore Chemicals)
- Radioactive substances

Baltic Sea region:

HELCOM – Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission - Helsinki Commission

- Agriculture
- Fisheries
- Industrial and municipal releases – air emissions, riverine inputs, soil contamination
- Marine litter and noise
- Marine protected areas – protection from human activities of marine and coastal habitats
- Maritime Spatial Planning
- Monitoring and assessment – to assess state of pressures and long term trends on marine environment
- Response to spills
- Shipping – emissions, illegal discharges, sewage, invasive species, eutrophication
- Species and biotopes

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Financial Report 2022-23

Recommendation:

The AGM is asked to approve the financial statement for the financial year 2022-23.

This document provides:

1. A summary of the accountants' report for 2022-23;
2. A comparison of actual income and expenditure compared with the agreed budget;
3. A comparison of income and expenditure with the previous financial year;
4. A report from the accountant on the unaudited financial information of KIMO International for the year ended 31 March 2023.

A list of all financial transactions can be shown on request.

1. Summary:

	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Total income	£155,119	£121,984	£124,286	£114,131
Total expenditure	£190,806	£100,103	£98,238	£93,022
Total spent on travel	£15,807	£1,018	£0	£11,799
Surplus/(Deficit)	(-£35,687)	£21,881	£26,046	£21,109
Reserve at year end	£84,028	£119,715	£97,834	£71,786

2. Budget vs Actual 2022-23

	Actual 22/23 £	Budget 22/23 £
INCOME		
Membership fees	103,967	102,943
OSPAR ICG marine litter income	14,831	13,000
KIMO UK recharge	11,016	-
Other income	25,305	-
Donations	-	-
	155,119	115,943
EXPENDITURE		
Secretariat (SIC)	46,435	71,264
Travel expenses	15,807	16,000
OSPAR ICG expenses	5,570	13,000
Graduate intern	9,433	-
Consultancy	91,630	20,000
Accountancy	3,480	1,500
Meeting expenses	6,888	1,500
Telephone	787	200
Miscellaneous	1,986	1,000
Website + communications	1,494	2,500
Insurance	254	350
Promotional expenses	1,975	8000
Bank charges	485	350
Provision for doubtful debts	4,582	
	190,806	135,664
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR BEFORE TAXATION	(-35,687)	(-19,721)
Taxation	-	-
RETAINED SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAXATION	(-35,687)	(-19,721)

3. Year-on-year comparison

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
INCOME		
Membership fees	103,967	99,589
OSPAR ICG marine litter income	14,831	13,215
KIMO UK recharge	11,016	-
Other income	25,305	9,180
Total	155,119	121,984
EXPENDITURE		
Secretariat (SIC)	46,435	69,686
Travel expenses	15,807	1,018
OSPAR ICG expenses	5,570	9,014
Graduate intern	9,433	-
Consultancy	91,630	14,075
Accountancy	3,480	1,416
Meeting expenses	6,888	-
Telephone	787	110
Miscellaneous	1,986	1,233
Website expenses	1,494	578
Insurance	254	310
Promotional expenses	1,975	2,423
Bank charges	485	60
Provision for doubtful debts	4,582	
Total	190,806	100,103
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR BEFORE TAXATION	(-35,687)	21,881
Taxation	-	-
RETAINED SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAXATION	(-35,687)	21,881

KIMO International
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended
31 March 2023

KIMO International

OFFICERS AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

MEMBERS

Denmark
Faroe Islands
Netherlands/Belgium
Norway
Sweden
United Kingdom
Klaipeda, Lithuania
Wexford, Ireland
Insel-und Halligkonferenz (IHK)
Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsche Noordseeküste (SDN)

PRESIDENT

Jerry Ahlström

SECRETARIAT

Arabelle Bentley

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland
117 Commercial Street
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0DL

ACCOUNTANTS

RSM UK Tax & Accounting Limited
Chartered Accountants
St Olaf's Hall
Church Road
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0FD

KIMO International

SECRETARIAT'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We are required by the constitution of KIMO International to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation, and of the surplus or deficit of the organisation for that period.

In preparing these financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue to operate.

We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records
- safeguarding the organisation's assets
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the members

Secretariat: Arabelle Bentley, Executive Secretary

Date: 6 October 2023

KIMO International

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF KIMO INTERNATIONAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

In accordance with the engagement letter dated 04 May 2023 we have prepared for your approval the financial information of KIMO International for the year which comprises the Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and the Related Notes from KIMO International's accounting records and information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at <http://www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance>.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 04 May 2023. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial information of KIMO International and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in accordance with the guidance of ICAEW as detailed at icaew.com/compilation. This report should not therefore be regarded as suitable to be used or relied on by any party wishing to acquire any rights against RSM UK Tax & Accounting Limited for any purpose or in any context. Any party other than you which obtains access to this report or a copy and chooses to rely on this report (or any part of it) will do so at its own risk. To the fullest extent permitted by law, RSM UK Tax & Accounting Limited accept no responsibility or liability in respect of this report to any other party and shall not be liable for any loss, damage or expense of whatsoever nature which is caused by any person's reliance on representations in this report.

You have approved the financial information for the year and have acknowledged your responsibility for it, for the appropriateness of the financial reporting framework adopted and for providing all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

We have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

RSM UK TAX AND ACCOUNTING LIMITED

Chartered Accountants
St Olaf's Hall
Church Road
Lerwick
Shetland
ZE1 0FD

MEMBERS CONFIRMATION

ACCOUNTS OF KIMO INTERNATIONAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

In accordance with the engagement letter dated 04 May 2023, we approve the financial information which comprises the Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and Related Notes. We acknowledge our responsibility for the financial information, including the appropriateness of the applicable financial reporting framework as set out in note 1, and for providing RSM UK Tax and Accounting Limited with all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

On behalf of the members:

President: Jerry Ahlström, KIMO International President

Date: 6 October 2023

KIMO International

UNAUDITED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	22/23	21/22
		£	£
INCOME			
Membership fees	2	103,967	99,589
OSPAR ICG marine litter income		14,831	13,215
KIMO UK recharge		11,016	-
Other income		25,305	9,180
		<u>155,119</u>	<u>121,984</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Consultancy costs		91,630	14,075
Secretariat (SIC)		46,435	69,866
Travel expenses	3	15,807	1,018
OSPAR ICG expenses		5,570	9,014
Graduate Intern		9,433	-
Accountancy		3,480	1,416
Meeting expenses		6,888	-
Telephone		787	110
Miscellaneous		1,986	1,233
Website expenses		1,494	578
Promotional expenses		1,975	2,423
Insurance		254	310
Bank charges		485	60
Provision for doubtful debts		4,582	-
		<u>190,806</u>	<u>100,103</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR BEFORE TAXATION		(35,687)	21,881
Taxation		-	-
RETAINED (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAXATION		<u>(35,687)</u> =====	<u>21,881</u> =====

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the (deficit)/surplus shown for the years above. All of the organisation's activities are considered to be continuing.

KIMO International

UNAUDITED BALANCE SHEET

31 March 2023

	Notes	22/23	21/22
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	4	10,109	32,696
Cash at bank and in hand		145,902	90,843
		<u>156,011</u>	<u>123,539</u>
CREDITORS:			
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(71,983)	(3,824)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		84,028	119,715
		<u></u>	<u></u>
NET ASSETS		84,028	119,715
		=====	=====
RESERVES			
31 March 2022		119,715	97,834
Retained (deficit)/surplus for the year		(35,687)	21,881
		<u></u>	<u></u>
31 March 2023		84,028	119,715
		=====	=====

The financial statements on pages 4 to 8 were approved by the Assembly of Delegates on 6 October 2023

Board Member:

KIMO International

UNAUDITED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 March 2023

1 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

STATUS

The organisation is a voluntary body whose objectives are to control pollution and any environmental threats to northern seas.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention under FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102").

INCOME

Income is recognised when due at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for services, memberships and other income.

GOING CONCERN

No material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the ability of the organisation to continue as a going concern have been identified by the members. As a result, they have adopted the going concern basis of accounting.

FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Transactions expressed in foreign currencies are translated into sterling and recorded at rates of exchange approximating to those ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated at rates ruling at the balance sheet date. All differences are taken to the income and expenditure account.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The organisation has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement conferred by Financial Reporting Standard No 102 on the grounds that it would have been entitled to the exemptions available in the Companies Act 2006 for small companies.

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The accounts are prepared for the year ended 31 March 2023. Within the financial statements and notes this is shown as 22/23. The same format has been applied to the comparative year.

TAXATION

No taxation is due on mutual trading.

KIMO International

UNAUDITED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 March 2023

2	INCOME	22/23	21/22
		£	£
	Membership fees		
	Netherlands/Belgium	38,039	37,344
	Denmark	26,261	24,339
	United Kingdom	10,822	10,662
	Norway	5,698	5,606
	Faroe Islands (Torshavn)	828	828
	Sweden	15,329	15,101
	Insel-und Halligkonferenz (IHK)	1,208	1,223
	Faroe Islands	1,223	1,210
	SDN – Association for Protection of the German North Sea Coast	1,223	1,223
	Lithuania	1,668	1,643
	Ireland	1,668	410
		-----	-----
		103,967	99,589
		=====	=====

Membership fees are received net of expenses.

In the year three membership fees have been provided for as doubtful debts. This cost KIMO £4,582 for 22/23 (£Nil – 21/22)

3	TRAVEL EXPENSES	22/23	21/22
		£	£
	OSPAR	-	429
	HELCOM	-	-
	President	3,139	-
	OSPAR/EU	1,529	-
	EU	3,843	-
	KIMO	6,297	323
	Other	-	266
	SEAQUAL	-	-
	UN	999	-
		-----	-----
		15,807	1,018
		=====	=====

KIMO International

UNAUDITED NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 March 2023

4	DEBTORS	22/23	21/22
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year		
	Trade receivables	-	-
	Other receivables	-	-
	Prepayments and accrued income	10,109	32,696
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		10,109	32,696
		=====	=====

There were no debtors falling due after more than one year.

5	CREDITORS:	22/23	21/22
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year		
	Accruals and deferred income	71,494	2,032
	Other creditors	489	1,792
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		71,983	3,824
		=====	=====

There were no creditors falling due after more than one year.

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

KIMO International Budget 2024-25

Recommendation:

The AGM is asked to consider and approve the KIMO International budget for 2024-25.

Comments from the Secretariat:

Please note the following points with regard to the preparation of this provisional budget.

- Budget includes an increase of 8.7% to membership fees as adjustment for inflation (as agreed by International Board May 2013).
- The budget does not include any provision for lost members nor for non-payment of membership fees.
- This proposed budget shows a deficit; consideration should be given to how to address this.
- Additional costs are expected, for consultancies and contracted staff to take on some of the expanding portfolio of work. Since this is an evolving situation, it is not possible to accurately predict costs but it is certain that these costs cannot currently be met by income from membership fees.
- Predicted expenditure on consultancy includes Communications/Social Media officer, graduate intern and consultants (reports and website content).

KIMO International Budget 2024-25 (Provisional)

INCOME £

	2024-25
Membership Fees	
Sweden	17,970
Netherlands	44,572
Denmark	30,772
UK	12,683
Norway	4,721
Norway - Bergen	1,954
Faroe -	
Kommunufelagid	1,329
Faroe - Torshavn	977
Germany - IHK	1,329
Germany - SDN	1,329
Lithuania - Klaipeda	1,954
Wexford	1,954
TOTAL INCOME	121,547

EXPENDITURE £

	2024-25
Secretariat	74,144
Meeting Expenses	1,500
Travel Expenses	16,000
Consultancy costs	20,000
Accountancy	3,500
Office/Administration	
Telephone	250
Website + Comms	3,000
Online platforms	1,000
Promotional expenses	5,000
Bank charges	400
Insurance	300
Miscellaneous	
Expenses	2,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	127,094
SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-5,547

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Reports from the Networks 2022-2023

Recommendation:

The Annual General Meeting is asked to note the network reports 2018-2019

Reports are attached.



KIMO Network Report – AGM 2023

Network Name:

KIMO Denmark

Summary:

KIMO Denmark gained one new member municipality in 2023.

KIMO Denmark's focus during this period was to support members' concerns by lobbying for a reduction in PFAS pollution, cleaning up of historical coastal chemical dumpsites and stopping dumping of polluted sediment in Køge Bay.

We finalized two projects during this period and kicked-off two new Interreg projects.

Current projects focus on reducing marine litter through data collection and analysis, awareness, volunteer beach cleaning and targeting items at source. The poor state of Danish waters and efforts to reduce plastic and chemical pollution are main concerns for the Danish network.

The national board held half of the meetings virtually. Physical meetings will now include a study trip.

Membership:

We welcomed the municipality of Nyborg as a new member of KIMO Denmark. There are now 19 member municipalities in Denmark with no losses in membership in 2022-2023.

Meetings:

KIMO Denmark held a board meeting in Tønder Municipality in December 2023. The director for "Tænketanken Hav", the Danish Ocean Think Tank, attended, gave a presentation and discussed cooperation with KIMO.

The National Board held virtual meetings in May and September of 2023. The Municipality of Varde hosted a new two-day meeting format in May with a study tour during the first day. The second day was a regular business meeting. This board found this new format rewarding and will continue once or twice a year with a new municipality as host.

We participated in a consultation meeting with the organisation Keep Denmark Tidy and followed their help providing support for beach litter containers on municipal beaches. The "Klimatorium" (Climate Centre) in the municipality of Lemvig was the venue for the meeting.

KIMO Denmark presented this issue of PFAS pollution to the Waden Sea Board meeting.

Other Events:

KIMO Denmark and the University of Aarhus coordinated a “deep dive” workshop to analyse litter found in the Skagerrak region from 14-18 November 2022. Twenty people who work with marine litter from several European countries attended and attempted to age and source the litter.

We also promoted an online portal designed by the Limfjord Council that the public can use to report finds of lost fishing gear in the fjord.

Hot topics:

KIMO Denmark continues to work on the PFAS issue. Municipalities and recreational users of coastal waters are very concerned about potential health effects and KIMO is lobbying for improved guidance from the Ministry of the Environment as well as a European Ban on the use of PFAS.

KIMO has lobbied for many years for dedicated funding to clean up historic coastal chemical dumping sites. The government developed a plan to clean up prioritised sites and allocated 630 million Danish crowns for work in the period up to 2025. We are following the progress.

KIMO Denmark added its voice to organisations opposed to the proposed dumping of dredged materials originating from a large project in Copenhagen into Køge Bay. Because of the outcry over environmental concerns, the minister announced that the dumping would no longer occur.

Project/Campaign updates:

By the end of 2022, the ministry of the environment had not registered major paraffin pollution events in Denmark that year. We hope that efforts to change the MARPOL rules regarding tank washing are starting to have an effect.

KIMO Denmark’s participation in The Waden Sea dialogue project ended with a conference in Bremen, Germany in April 2023. Project partners decided to create a roadmap to progress the work areas of sediment management and clean fleets going forward towards the next Waden Sea Ministerial Conference in 2026.

HELCOM contracted KIMO to conduct a study of litter items such as confetti and balloons in the Baltic Sea Area. The report will soon be available through HELCOM. KIMO International created materials from this report to raise awareness about the issue via social media.

The coastal lottery, coordinated by KIMO Denmark, is in its fifth year. Six member municipalities participate. In 2022, we changed the format from paper lottery tickets to virtual tickets available by scanning a QR code.

Looking ahead:

KIMO Denmark begins two new Interreg Projects in 2023.

Power Bio has the overall aim of increasing the supply of biomass for green energy production and high-value products through efficient uses of, for example, washed up seaweed and seagrass on

municipal beaches. KIMO Denmark is coordinating the group dealing with reclaiming beach washings.

The TREASURE project uses the concept of living labs to tackle the issue of reducing riverine litter. KIMO Denmark, as part of the Danish lab, will use the municipality of Varde as a test site, analyse inputs of litter to the river and implement actions to reduce this.

KIMO Denmark will follow the work of OSPAR Intercessional Group on Marine Litter in 2023-2024 and write the summary record for the meetings. We continue to monitor marine litter on three OSPAR reference beaches.

KIMO Denmark will continue to implement its external and internal communications strategy. We chose LinkedIn as the preferred social media platform. Through a concentrated effort and the help of a consultant, output has increased both in number and in quality. The number of followers has increased from 50 to over 500 people.



KIMO Network Report – 2023

Network Name:

KIMO the Netherlands and Belgium

Summary:

KIMO NL/B's national network is stable with 33 members in 2023. Its multiple year programmes like the Fishing for Litter scheme, Programme Fishing for a Clean Sea and the Programme Clean Beaches proved successful again. Interaction with all levels of stakeholders was achieved, ranging from ministries to local action groups. Changes in the fisheries sector caused challenges with communication with fishermen, but that has stabilised now and a fresh approach is likely to be established in 2024. KIMO was asked to voice its opinion on strategically important topics like the national draft marine strategy (EU-MSFD).

Membership:

33 municipalities are members of our network, covering all the North Sea coastline.

Meetings:

National Board: 16/03, 22/06 and 14/09/2023

National Council and congress on the water quality of rivers: 20/04/2023; a 2nd council meeting is scheduled for 9 November 2023.

Other Events:

1. Meetings are co-organised for the National Programme Clean Beaches: including the "Beach Elections" and "National Beach Days".
2. Meeting organised for the Fishing for Litter Programme's Steering Committee
3. Visits of all the main Dutch Fisheries Ports
4. Stakeholder meetings attended on the new draft National Marine Strategy (EU-MSFD requirement)

Hot topics:

PFAS is still a hot topic, as are riverine and beach litter.

Project/Campaign updates:

1. National Fishing for Litter scheme: After a number of challenging years due to uncertainty in the fisheries sector which led to the development and implementation of a national fleet transition fund to support fishers financially who want to leave the sector, resulting in a buyout of over 50 vessels, a more tranquil period seems to have arrived. Currently, KIMO NL/B is assessing what the actual size of the scheme's participating fleet is and how much waste was collected by that number of ships. From 2024 onwards, we will work on further fostering the participants.
2. National Programme Clean Beaches: Engagement during events with stakeholders like municipalities, beach restaurant owners, ministries and NGOs was achieved. After running 9 years successfully, it is envisaged that the programme will end in 2023.
3. National Programme Fishing for a Clean Sea: An assessment of the current state of play and opinions of the fisheries sector with regard to marine litter management. Key stakeholders are interviewed where information is elaborated with the objective of designing and signing a MoU on waste management in 2024. The programme will end in 2023 as well.

Looking ahead:

Further communication and interaction with ports and stakeholders for improved implementation of our Fishing for Litter scheme in 2024.

We are working on engagement of the fishing communities for improved ways of waste collection and management in 2024.

An assessment on the best ways KIMO NL/B could facilitate and communicate with its national members is being prepared in the second half of 2023. Interaction with and consultation of our members is being planned accordingly.



KIMO Network Report – 2023

Network Name:

KIMO Norway

Summary:

Local beach cleaning actions have been carried out in the member municipalities.

Membership:

Farsund, Lillesand, Grimstad, Arendal.
Bergen?

Meetings:

Board Meeting KIMO Norway October 20th 2022.

Other Events:

National Beach Clean-up Day March 18th 2023

Tall Ships Races Arendal 3.-6. August 2023

National Beach Clean-up Week September 8th – 17th 2023

Hot topics:

KIMO Norway are discussing the future membership in KIMO.

Project/Campaign updates:

- From 2023, Sjøsjukt and Våre Strander will join forces to be able to make an even greater effort for the sea, and to create an even stronger local actor in Agder. Together with Våre Strender, Sjøsjukt will continue the work of organizing professional and voluntary clean-up actions (above and below water), mapping areas that need to be cleaned and deploying cleaning equipment, adopting Sørland's beaches and conducting communication in various formats.

- Raet National Park [Besøkssenter Raet — Vitensenteret Sørlandet \(vitensor.no\)](https://vitensor.no) is a marine national park. The visitor centre arranges educational tours during the summer. They also educate pupils aged 10-16 years.

Looking ahead:

- Continuing the work on marine welfare.
- SOS Skagerrak (Together for Skagerrak) is a regional initiative in Agder where administration, research and business will work together so that Southern Norway reaches 30 before 30. The state administrator in Agder (The County Governor) will coordinate this action. The Mayor of Arendal is on the board.
- Deciding future membership in KIMO.



KIMO Network Report – 2023

Network Name:

KIMO Sweden

Summary:

- Action plan against marine litter.
- Host AGM this year in Falkenberg, Sweden.
- Four meetings in our network.

Membership:

KIMO Sweden has 12 members. Malmö, Lomma, Helsingborg, Falkenberg, Varberg, Göteborg, Kungälv, Öckerö, Tjörn, Sotenäs, Uddevalla and Tanum. Every member is represented by one political member and one officer.

Meetings:

We usually have four meetings a year. This year, two meetings were physical and two digital. Our members take turns hosting the meetings. Our meetings are very informative and progressive. A common format of our meetings is that we start with a presentation by the host municipality about a current and local/regional issue. Then the formal meeting begins. News from KIMO International is a standing point on the agenda. The meetings usually last for 3 hours.

March 28th. Hosted by Gothenburg. Annual meeting to confirm our budget, action plan and annual report. The departing politicians were thanked for their great commitment to the association and marine environmental issues and each received a diploma. This year there are many new delegates, so we spent some time getting to know each other and to inform them about our mission, how we work and what issues that we prioritise in KIMO International and KIMO Sweden. We adopted an action plan against marine litter. We talked a lot about the arrangements for the AGM in Falkenberg in October, where KIMO Sweden will host AGM and the conference this year.

June 19th-20th. Hosted by Öckerö. Linnea Rösiö had arranged a guided tour of the coastline in Erdsalens nature reserve. After lunch, Sotenäs maritime centre held a presentation. Then we had our meeting and talked about the member fee, AGM, ecosystem services and confetti. At the end of the day we visited a fishery museum in Hönö Klåva. The second day, we continued our discussions in four working groups.

September 13th. Digital meeting. On our agenda subjects as fishery, bottom trawling, harbours and biodiversity will be discussed.

November 10th. Digital meeting. The agenda is not yet decided.

Other Events:

In October member in KIMO Sweden will show posters and inform about their marine environmental work at an exhibition in the entrance hall in Argus, the education and cultural center in Falkenberg.

We have invited Swedish coastal municipalities to attend at the conference in October and an informative meeting about KIMO that will be held October 5th. This is a new way we try to reach new potential members.

Hot topics:

Marine litter and marine recycling. Marine nature reserves. Eelgrass. Ecosystem services.

Project/Campaign updates:

KIMO Sweden has not had any campaigns, but we support Västerhavsveckan, which is a week in August when a lot of activities are organised along the west coast. Our members have their own projects and campaigns.

Looking ahead:

Four network meetings and activities that follow our Action plan.



KIMO Network Report – AGM 2023

Network Name:

KIMO UK

Summary:

KIMO UK's focus during this year was to support members' concerns by lobbying for legislation to tackle microfibre pollution from washing machines. We are also collecting information and data on intentional discharges of sewage into UK rivers and waterways.

KIMO UK also remains focused on the Fishing for Litter project management and expansion with the addition of the several recycling projects now getting underway. We work together with the wind energy company Ørsted, which sponsors a number of projects in England.

The national board holds one of the meetings in person and another three online. The physical meeting includes a study trip.

Membership:

This year we have lost one member, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, but also have two municipalities that are interested in joining KIMO. There are currently 7 member municipalities in the UK.

Meetings:

KIMO UK held a board meeting in Highland Council in September 2023 and there was a study visit to the Glenmorangie Distillery and oyster farm. The distillery is very active on greening the business and there was some interesting discussion and the opportunity for members to ask questions.

The National Board also held virtual meetings in December 2023 and April 2023, with another planned for December 2023.

KIMO UK is an active member of the Scottish Government Marine Litter Strategy Steering Group and makes a direct contribution to the achievement of the strategic targets, most notably on the increase of Fishing for Litter participation by 50% within a 4 year period.

Other Events:

In June 2023 KIMO UK was a guest presenter at the Sea Scotland Conference, which gathered stakeholders from a diverse range of organisations, government, industry, business and funders to raise awareness of the challenges and solutions that affect Scotland.

Hot topics:

KIMO UK members continue to be concerned about PFAS in our rivers and waterways and is pushing the environment agency and water authorities for information on any monitoring ongoing in the UK. We are also collecting information and data on intentional discharges of sewage into UK rivers and waterways.

Project/Campaign updates:

Participation in KIMO's Fishing for Litter (FfL) scheme in the UK continues to increase. The biggest challenge the project faces is consistent and long-term funding. FfL is a rolling project and requires assured funding for 12 months a year, but the Marine Fund Scotland (MFS) structure has left us without any funding for several months. We have communicated to Marine Scotland several times the importance of addressing this for 2023-24, so that funding is made available for a sustained (three-year) period, but this appears not to be possible given the way that finance is made available from UK government post-Brexit.

KIMO UK has also contributed to KIMO International's work within the Interreg CleanAtlantic project, and has initiated some small scale recycling projects for net cuttings and other marine plastic waste. We are planning to apply for government funding to enable these projects to be expanded.

Looking ahead:

The Scottish Government is pushing for a joined up UK wide approach with regard to wet wipes. We are following the work is being done by Scottish Government as legislative options become available. Other Scottish Government priority areas are plastic pellets, end-of-life fishing and aquaculture gear.



KIMO Network Report – 2023

Network Name:

KIMO Germany

Membership:

- Insel- und Halligkonferenz e.V. (IHKo)
- Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste e.V. (SDN)

Meetings:

20230302-03: IHKo AGM on the island Helgoland

20230428 & 0816: IHKo Board meetings

20230519-20: 50th anniversary of SDN e.V. and 35th anniversary of the National Park House Dangast.

20230630: IHKo AGM in Hattstedtermarsch

20230707: Founding meeting of the SDN Advisory Board "Offshore Wind Power and its Impact on the Environment and Shipping".

Other Events:

20230209: IHKo – the nationalpark partners from Schleswig-Holstein meet once a year for exchange of experience and know-how, appr. 100 participants

20230707: IHKo – Leader AktivRegion Uthlande celebrated the end of old and the beginning of the new 2023-2027 programming period for EU structural funds with appr. 40 participants

Hot topics:

Insel- und Halligkonferenz:

- Demand for a German coast guard with a central responsible organisation
- Handling of mud from Hamburg harbour and the river Elbe and dumping in the northsea

- Securing the conditions and supply for the emergency medical service for the islands and halligen (members of IHKo)

Schutzhgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste:

- Accident prevention for maritime traffic off the German coast.
- Emergency tugboats and technical expansion of pollution-accident prevention measures.
- Problems caused by the ongoing industrialisation of the North Sea and the Wadden Sea with regard to their impacts on the environment and habitats.
- Threats to the Wadden Sea World Heritage Site from the effects of industrialisation.
- Sustainability in fisheries using the example of crab fishing.

Project/Campaign updates:

Insel- und Halligkonferenz:

- Continuation of lobby work on the hot topics mentioned above.
- We started a new project named “Energynet Uthlande” to gather the basic principles like the potential for renewable energy on the northfrisian islands and halligen and from the island Helgoland.

Schutzhgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste:

- Intensive and issue-oriented public relations work to provide factual information on North Sea issues and to be a competent and factual discussion partner for media representatives on the subject area.
- Critical monitoring of the expansion of offshore wind power plants in the North Sea.
- Critical monitoring of risk reduction in maritime traffic in the North Sea.
- Critical monitoring of current and future construction work in the Wadden Sea.
- Lobbying for better and more detailed information dissemination.

Looking ahead:

Insel- und Halligkonferenz:

- November 2023: IHKo AGM on the Island Amrum
- Heading-on with the results of our Energynet Project

Schutzhgemeinschaft Deutsche Nordseeküste:

- More public and political attention to environmental issues concerning the North Sea.
- Further expansion of own professional competence through increased involvement of professional bodies and people.

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Resolution 23/01 – Phasing out black carbon

Recommendation:

The AGM is asked to discuss and adopt Resolution 23/01.

Background

Black carbon is a short-lived climate pollutant with an impact that far exceeds that of carbon dioxide, contributing significantly to Arctic warming and warming in mid-latitudes. Arctic waters are becoming navigable for longer periods of time; between 2013-2019, the Arctic Council reports a 25% increase in shipping in the Arctic and a 75% increase in the distance sailed by all vessels. Black carbon rapidly accelerates melting if it lands on ice or snow, and is virtually impossible to clean up if spilled. Exposure to black carbon has been linked to heart and lung damage, posing a serious health risk to coastal populations, which will only increase as shipping activity expands.

It has been evident for around 30 years that reducing black carbon emissions is necessary. While there has been a lot of progress to ban land-based emissions, the same efforts have not been made at sea. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) has already formally recognised that black carbon is the second largest source of ship climate warming, responsible for around 20% of shipping's climate impact (over 20 years), and has been considering measures for over a decade but has not yet banned black carbon emissions due to pressure from the shipping industry. It is working to develop guidelines on goal-based control measures to reduce the impact of black carbon emissions from international shipping in the Arctic, but progress is slow and there is no indication that these measures will be mandatory (without exemptions or waivers) nor sufficiently timely to prevent further avoidable warming in the Arctic.

Reducing emissions from the shipping industry could be achieved easily and quickly, and would have an immediate impact on the amount of black carbon being emitted. Many ships in the Arctic still run on heavy fuel oil, which generates black carbon. Most could easily switch to cleaner burning distillate fuels but do not because of the cost. Black carbon is short-lived so could rapidly disappear from the atmosphere if regulations were imposed.

KIMO believes it is imperative that the IMO accelerates the development and implementation of mandatory measures for all ships, existing and new, to reduce particulate matter and black carbon from shipping.

Recognizing the need for a clean environment in and around the Northern, Baltic and Arctic seas and the threat posed to marine ecosystems and coastal communities by release of black carbon from shipping, KIMO urges:

International Maritime Organisation

1. to commit to preparing concrete proposals for approval in 2024, which deliver mandatory black carbon emissions reductions from all ships that impact the Arctic;
2. to amend MARPOL Annex VI by introducing a mandatory regulation requiring ships operating in and near Arctic waters to move to distillate or cleaner non-fossil fuels;
3. to adopt a more ambitious interim target to reduce shipping's climate impact by 50% by 2030;

European Commission and Member States

4. to ensure that black carbon is specifically included in the 2026 review of the Fit for 55 Fuel EU Maritime Regulation, thereby following up on the EU's commitments made in its 2021 Arctic Strategy.

KIMO members agree to submit this Resolution to all National Governments, the European Commission, the International Maritime Organisation and other relevant organisations.

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Changes to the Presidency Team

At the AGM 2022, Mr Ahlström reported that discussions within the presidency team resulted in a proposal that the role of senior vice president be eliminated, such that the presidency team would in future consist of the president and one vice president (the role previously known as 'junior vice'). Mr Ahlström said that, apart from offering advice, the senior vice president has no clearly defined role in the organisation and that expecting a politician to commit to an official KIMO role for 6 years when considering nomination for the presidency is unrealistic. Mr Ahlström said this had been discussed by the International Board, which agreed that a formal decision on the change to the structure of the presidency team should be taken at the 2023 AGM. It should be noted that adoption of the proposal requires a change to the KIMO International Constitution.

Recommendation:

The AGM is asked to:

- 1. consider and agree to the new structure of the Presidency Team;**
- 2. task the International Secretary to amend the Constitution accordingly.**

KIMO International

Annual General Meeting

Falkenberg (Sweden): 6 October 2023 – 09.00-12.00 CEST

Election of President and Vice-President 2023

According to the KIMO Constitution, the President, Senior Vice-President and Junior Vice President shall be elected by the Annual General Meeting for a period of two years. The Senior Vice President should be the retiring President. The Junior Vice President should become President after two years. A new Junior Vice President will be elected from each KIMO member network in turn, nominated by that network's National Board.

Recommendation:

That the Annual General Meeting, for the period October 2023-October 2025, elects:

- 1. Councillor Trish Robertson (Highland Council, UK) to the role of KIMO International President;**
- 2. Councillor Preben Friis-Hauge (Varde Kommune, Denmark) to the role of KIMO International [Junior] Vice President.**